

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

May 1, 2003

Washington Gas Light Company  
Docket No. PR03-5-000

Washington Gas Light Company  
1100 H Street, NW  
12th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20080

Attention: Keith Townsend, Senior Attorney

Reference: Petition for Rate Approval

Ladies and Gentlemen:

1. On December 9, 2002, Washington Gas Light Company (WGLC) filed a petition for rate approval, pursuant to Sections 284.123(b)(2)<sup>1</sup> and 284.123(e)<sup>2</sup> of the Commission's Regulations, to restate its cost-based transportation rates in order to provide firm interstate transportation service from its facilities in Virginia to customer facilities located in West Virginia. The restatement proposes an applicable demand charge of \$2.1841 per Dth and a volumetric charge of \$0.0051 per Dth, both decreases from the last approved rates in Docket No. PR99-14-000. The filing also includes a revised Firm Interstate Transportation Service Operating Statement (FITSOS). WGLC's petition provides for firm interstate transportation service. No interruptible transportation service is requested. This order will benefit the public by providing WGLC's current and potential customers access to fair and equitable rates for transportation service.

2. Based upon our review of the petition and supplemental data filed by WGLC, the Commission finds that WGLC's proposed transportation rates are fair and equitable and not in excess of an amount which an interstate pipeline would be permitted to charge for comparable service, and as such are approved. WGLC's restated FITSOS is approved, as conditioned below. This letter does not relieve WGLC from its obligations to comply with the filing requirements under Section 284 of the Commission's regulations.

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<sup>1</sup>18 C.F.R. § 284.123(b)(2) (2002).

<sup>2</sup>18 C.F.R. § 284.123(e) (2002).

3. WGLC filed its rate petition pursuant to Section 284.123(b)(2) to establish cost-based transportation rates. However, the restated FITSOS permits shippers and WGLC to negotiate transportation rate (e.g., see Articles III(1) and III(2) - RATES), which could result in a non-cost-based transportation rate. WGLC is directed to revise the FITSOS, so that shippers are charged cost-based transportation rates up to the rates approved herein.
4. Section IV.F. (Lost and Unaccounted-for Gas) of the FITSOS provides, in part, that shipper shall compensate WGLC for lost and unaccounted-for volumes at the rate of 0.5 percent of all volumes received on behalf of shipper at the receipt point or at the rate of WGLC's actual lost and unaccounted-for gas, to the nearest 0.1 percent, whichever is greater. This provision permits WGLC to charge a non-cost-based fuel rate. WGLC is directed to revise this provision so that a shipper using WGLC's transportation service will pay a cost-based fuel rate of 0.44 percent (as computed by WGLC using the supplemental data). In the alternative, a shipper using WGLC's transportation service will pay a fuel rate of WGLC's actual lost and unaccounted-for gas. WGLC is directed to file a revised FITSOS, within 30 days of the date of this order, as discussed in the above two paragraphs.
5. On or before December 9, 2005, WGLC shall file an application for rate approval under Section 284.123(b) (2) of the Commission's regulations to justify its current rates or to establish new maximum rates.
6. The filing was noticed on December 31, 2002. No adverse comments were filed. Notices of intervention and unopposed timely filed motions to intervene are granted pursuant to the operation of Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 C.F.R. § 385.214 (2001)). Any opposed or untimely filed motion to intervene is governed by the provisions of Rule 214.
7. This order constitutes final agency action. Requests for rehearing by the Commission may be filed within 30 days of the date of issuance of this order, pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 385.713 (2002).

By direction of the Commission.

Commissioner Brownell dissenting in part with  
a separate statement attached.

Magalie R. Salas,  
Secretary.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Washington Gas Light Company

Docket No. PR03-5-000

(Issued May 1, 2003)

BROWNELL, Commissioner, dissenting in part:

For the reasons set forth in Green Canyon Pipe Line Company, L.P. in Docket No. PR01-15-001, I would not impose a triennial rate approval requirement.

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Nora Mead Brownell  
Commissioner